

1 of 15

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*Embassy of the United States of America
Athens, Greece*

April 14, 2008

RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(B), 1.4(D)

MEMORANDUM
SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED

To: Ambassador Charles P. Ries

From: Robin Quinville

Subject: Briefer for Your Breakfast Meetings with John Bellinger.

You will meet State Department's Legal Advisor to the Secretary, John Bellinger, for Breakfast at the Winter Garden Restaurant on the ground floor of the Grande Bretagne on Tuesday, September 12. Bellinger will be accompanied by his Special Assistant, Jim Filippatos, and the Assistant Legal Advisor for Political-Military Affairs, Joshua Dorosin. Tom Countryman and Kirsten Bauman will also attend. You will leave the breakfast at 9:00 for your appointment with Foreign Minister Bakoyannis. Bellinger will depart for an appointment at the MoJ at 9:00am, accompanied by his delegation, Tom Countryman, and Kirsten Bauman.

Because Bellinger arrives at 10:25pm on Monday night, your breakfast meeting will be his first appointment in Athens and provides you with the opportunity to brief him on his upcoming bilateral appointments. Issues you may want to discuss with Bellinger include background and updates on the Vodafone scandal, Cyprus ports compromises, Aegean boundaries issues, and the latest on the Gregorio I (see attached checklist). Bellinger received a briefer that included information on the Lalas case and alleged illegal Pakistani interrogations in Athens.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
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REVIEW AUTHORITY: ARCHIE M BOLSTER
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(B), 1.4(D)
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 13 APR 2018
DATE/CASE ID: 28 JAN 2009 200706444

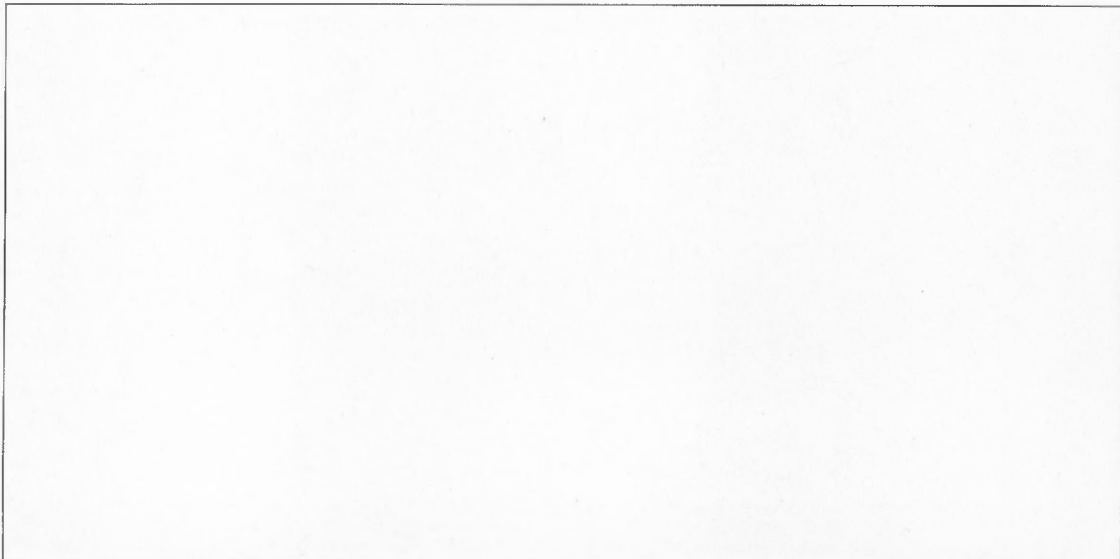
Attachment: Checklist

CHECKLIST

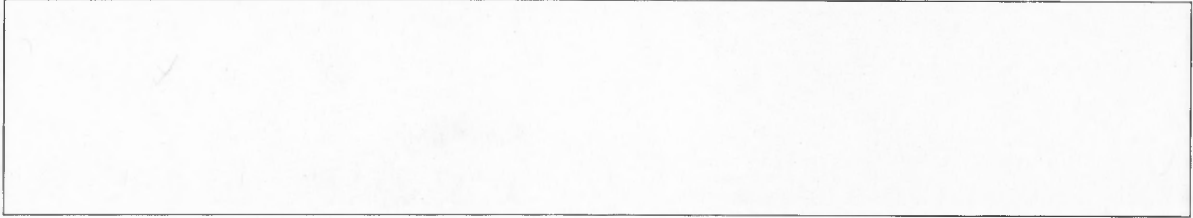
Vodafone scandal

- Review events surrounding the breaking of the February 2005 Vodafone scandal whereby it was revealed that top government ministers as well as public and private figures had their Vodafone mobiles wiretapped for six months during and after the Athens 2004 Olympic Games.
- Report on subsequent investigations: the Parliamentary inquiry into the scandal ended on July 26. However, there is a prosecutor's investigation still under way and verdicts as to who is responsible for the wiretaps are still pending. In early August 2006, the Vodafone case was assigned to special investigative magistrate Petropoulos, who is a senior appeals court judge. EYP, the national intelligence agency, conducted its own separate inquiry. Findings remain classified.
- Inform Bellinger that there is also an associated investigation into the death of a Vodafone senior engineer, Tsalikidis, who, allegedly, committed suicide but his family insists he may have been murdered.
- Note that the issue has nearly disappeared from the press, but could resurface during Bellinger's visit given press speculations of an alleged U.S. involvement.
- Explain that we do not comment on this case, other than to deny any involvement when pressed.

Cyprus



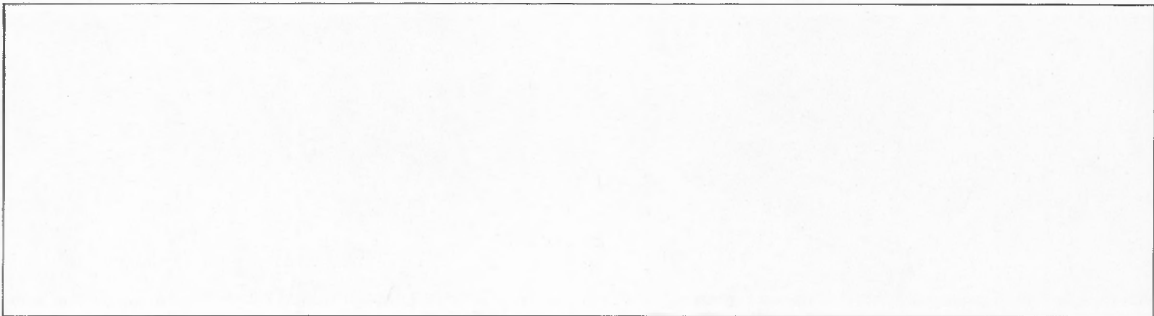
B1



B1

Aegean boundaries issues

- Inform Bellinger about the state of play on long-running Greece-Turkey Aegean disputes, including:
 - Greek FIR
 - Territorial waters
 - Continental shelf
 - Demilitarization of islands
 - Grey zones



B1

Gregorio I



B1

Allegations of Iraqi detainees in Souda Bay

- Inform Bellinger that in December 2005, a Greek MP of the European Parliament wrote a letter to (then) Foreign Minister Molyviatis saying he had information that 20 Iraqis were imprisoned/interrogated at Souda Bay. He simultaneously released the story to the Greek press, where it received heavy coverage.
- Explain that these allegations may have been caused by confusion over a flight that transited Souda Bay in 2004. On October 23, 2004, a U.S. Government-chartered DC-10 flight with approximately 20 Iraqi military officers on board landed at Souda Bay for re-fueling and departed the same day. The Iraqi military officers were en route to another European country for training. Due to an oversight, the Iraqis were not on the manifest, and the Greek military later registered an unofficial complaint

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about this (not about the fact that there were Iraqis on the flight) with our DATT in Athens.

- Refer to press guidance used at the time that stressed the U.S. facility at Souda Bay operates on the basis of an agreement between the United States and Greece. Security and access to the U.S. facility are controlled by the Greek military. There are no U.S. detention facilities at Souda Bay. We deferred to the U.S. Navy Public Affairs Officer in Souda Bay, who said that there is no truth to this story.

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